Numb. 10

The TATLER.

By *Mrs.* Jenny Diſtaff, *Half Siſter to Mr.* Bickerſtaff.

Quicquid agunt Homines noſtri Farrago Libelli.

From *Saturday April* 30. to *Tueſday May* 3. 1709.

From my own Apartment, May 1.

MY Brother *Iſaac* having a ſudden Occaſion to go out of Town, order'd me to take upon me the Buſineſs of the next Advice from Home, with Liberty to ſpeak it my own Way, not doubting the Allowances which would be given to a Writer of my Sex. You may be ſure, I undertook it with much Satisfaction: And I confeſs, I am not a little pleas'd with the Opportunity of running over all the Papers in his Cloſet, which he has left open for my Uſe on this Occaſion. The Firſt that I lay my Hands on, is, a Treatiſe concerning *The Empire of Beauty*, and the Effects it has had in all Nations of the World upon the publick and private Actions of Men; with an Appendix, which he calls, *The Batchelor's Scheme for Governing his Wife.* The Firſt Thing he makes this Gentleman propoſe, is, That ſhe ſhall be no Woman; for ſhe is to have an Averſion to Balls, to Opera's, to Viſits: She is to think his Company ſufficient to fill up all the Hours of Life with great Satisfaction: She is never to believe any other Man Wiſe, Learned, or Valiant; or at leaſt but in a Second Degree. In the next Place, he intends ſhe ſhall be a Cuckold; but expects, that he himſelf muſt live in perfect Security from that Terror. He dwells a great while on Inſtructions for her diſcreet Behaviour, in caſe of his Falſhood. I have not Patience with theſe unreaſonable Expectations, therefore turn back to the Treatiſe it ſelf. Here indeed my Brother deduces all the Revolutions among Men from the Paſſion of Love; and in his Preface, anſwers that uſual Obſervation againſt us, *That there is no Quarrel without a Woman in it*; with a gallant Aſſertion, *That there is nothing elſe worth quarrelling for.* My Brother is of a Complexion truly amorous; all his Thoughts and Actions carry in 'em a Tincture of that obliging Inclination; and this Turn has open'd his Eyes to ſee, we are not the inconſiderable Creatures which unlucky Pretenders to our Favour would inſinuate. He obſerves, that no Man begins to make any tolerable Figure, 'till he ſets out with the Hopes of pleaſing ſome one of us. No ſooner he takes that in his Head, but he pleaſes every one elſe by the by. It has an immediate Effect upon his Behaviour. There is Colonel *Ranter*, who never ſpoke without an Oath 'till he ſaw Lady *Betty Modiſh*; now never gives his Man an Order, but it is, Pray *Tom* do it. The Drawers where he drinks live in perfect Happineſs. He ask'd *Will* at the *George* t'other Day, How he did? Where he us'd to ſay, Damn it, It is ſo. He now believes there is ſome Miſtake: He muſt confeſs, he is of another Opinion; but however he won't inſiſt.

Every Temper, except downright inſipid, is to be animated or ſoftned by the Influence of Beauty: But of this untractable Sort is a lifeleſs handſome Fellow that viſits us, whom I have dreſs'd at this Twelvemonth; but he is as inſenſible of all the Arts I uſe, as if he convers'd that whole Time with his Nurſe. He outdoes our whole Sex in all the Faults our Enemies impute to us; he has brought Lazineſs into an Opinion, and makes his Indolence his Philoſophy: Inſomuch, that no longer than yeſterday in the Evening he gave me this Account of himſelf: *I am, Madam, perfectly unmov'd at all that paſſes among Men, and ſeldom give my ſelf the Fatigue of going among 'em; but when I do, I always appear the ſame Thing to thoſe whom I converſe with. My Hours of Exiſtence, or being awake, are from Eleven in the Morning to Eleven at Night; half of which I live to my ſelf, in picking my Teeth, waſhing my Hands, paring my Nails, and looking in my Glaſs. The Inſignificancy of my Manners to the reſt of the World makes the Laughers call me a* Quid Nunc, *a Phraſe I ſhall never enquire what they mean by. The laſt of me each Night is at St.* James's *Coffee-houſe, where I converſe, yet never fall into a Diſpute on any Occaſion, but leave the Underſtanding I have paſſive of all that goes through it, without entring into the Buſineſs of Life. And thus, Madam, have I arriv'd by Lazineſs to what others pretend to by Devotion, a Perfect Neglect of the World.* Sure, if our Sex had the Liberty of frequenting publick Houſes, and Converſations, we ſhould put theſe Rivals of our Faults and Follies out of Countenance. However, we ſhall ſoon have the Pleaſure of being acquainted with 'em one Way or other, for my Brother *Iſaac* deſigns, for the Uſe of our Sex, to give the exact Characters of all the Chief Politicians who frequent all the Coffee-houſes from St. *James's* to the *Change*; but deſigns to begin with that Cluſter of Wiſe Heads, as they are found ſitting every Evening from the left Side of the Fire at the *Smyrna*, to the Door. This will be of great Service for us, and I have Authority to promiſe an exact Journal of their Deliberations; the Publication of which I am to be allow'd for Pin-Money. In the mean Time I caſt my Eye upon a new Book, which gave me a more pleaſing Entertainment, being a Sixth Part of Miſcellany Poems, publiſh'd by Mr. *Tonſon*, which I find, by my Brother's Notes upon it, no Way inferior to the other Volumes. There are, it ſeems, in this a Collection of the beſt Paſtorals that have hitherto appear'd in *England*; but among them, none ſuperior to that Dialogue between *Sylvia* and *Dorinda*, written by one of my own Sex; where all our little Weakneſſes are laid open in a Manner more juſt, and with truer Raillery, than ever Man yet hit upon.

Only

Only this I now diſcern,
From the Things thou'ſt have me learn;
That Womankind's peculiar Joys
From paſt or preſent Beauties riſe.

But to reaſſume my firſt Deſign, there cannot be a greater Inſtance of the Command of Females, than in the prevailing Charms of the Heroine in the Play which was acted this Night, call'd, *All for Love*; or, *The World well loſt*. The enamour'd *Antony* reſigns Glory and Power to the Force of the attractive *Cleopatra*, whoſe Charms were the Defence of her Diadem, againſt a People otherwiſe invincible. It is ſo natural for Women to talk of themſelves, that it is to be hop'd, all my own Sex at leaſt will pardon me, that I could fall into no other Diſcourſe. If we have their Favour, we give our ſelves very little Anxiety for the reſt of our Readers. I believe, I ſee a Sentence of *Latin* in my Brother's Day-Book of Wit, which ſeems applicable on this Occaſion, and in Contempt of the Criticks.

----- *Triſtitiam & Metus*
Tradam protectis in Mare Criticum
Portare Ventis.

But I am interrupted by a Packet from Mr. *Kidder* from St. *James's* Coffee-houſe, which I am obliged to inſert in the very Stile and Words which Mr. *Kidney* uſes in his Letter.

St. James's Coffee-houſe, May 2.

We are adviſ'd by Letters from *Bern*, dated the 1ſt Inſtant, *N. S.* That the Duke of *Berwick* arriv'd at *Lyons* the 25th of the laſt Month; and continu'd his Journey the next Day to viſit the Paſſes of the Mountains, and other Poſts in *Dauphine* and *Provence*. Theſe Letters alſo inform'd us, That the Miſeries of the People in *France* are heighten'd to that Degree, that unleſs a Peace be ſpeedily concluded, half of that Kingdom would periſh for want of Bread. On the 24th, the Mareſchal *de Theſſe* paſs'd through *Lyons* in his Way to *Verſailles*; and two Battalions, which were marching from *Alſace* to reinforce the Army of the Duke of *Berwick*, paſs'd alſo through that Place. Thoſe Troops were to be follow'd by 6 Batalions more.

Letters from *Naples* of the 16th of *April* ſay, That the Marquis *de Prie's* Son was arriv'd there, with Inſtructions from his Father, to ſignify to the Vice-roy the Neceſſity his Imperial Majeſty was under, of deſiring an Aid from that Kingdom, for carrying on the Extraordinary Expences of the War. On the 14th of the ſame Month, they made a Review of the *Spaniſh* Troops in that Garriſon, and afterwards of the Marines, one Part of whom will embark with the other Troops deſign'd for *Barcelona*, and the reſt are to be ſent on Board the Gallies appointed to convoy Proviſions to that Place.

We hear from *Rome*, by Letters dated the 20th of *April*, That the Count *de Mellos*, Envoy from the King of *Portugal*, had made his Publick Entry into that City with much State and Magnificence. The Pope has lately held two other Conſiſtories, wherein he made a Promotion of two Cardinals; but the Acknowledgment of King *Charles* is ſtill defer'd.

Letters from other Parts of *Italy* adviſe us, That the Doge of *Venice* continues dangerouſly ill: That the Prince *de Carignan* having relaps'd into a violent Fever, dy'd the 23d of *April*, in his 80th Year.

Advices from *Vienna* of the 27th of *April* import, That the Archbiſhop of *Saltzburg* is dead, who is ſucceeded by Count *Harrach*, formerly Biſhop of *Vienna*, and for theſe laſt Three Years Coadjutor to the ſaid Archbiſhop; and that Prince *Maximilian* of *Lichtenſtein* has likewiſe departed this Life, at his Country Seat call'd *Cronian* in *Moravia*. Theſe Advices add, That the Emperor has nam'd Count *Zinzendorf*, Count *Goes*, and Monſieur *Consbruck*, for his Plenipotentiaries in an enſuing Treaty of Peace; and that they hear from *Hungary*, That the Imperialiſts have had ſeveral ſucceſsful Skirmiſhes with the Malecontents.

Letters from *Paris*, dated *May* the 6th, ſay, That the Mareſchal *de Theſſe* arrived there on the 29th of the laſt Month; and that the Chevalier *de Beuil* was ſent thither by Don *Pedro Ronquillo* with Advice, That the Confederate Squadron appear'd before *Alicant* the 17th, and having for ſome Time cannonaded the City, endeavour'd to land ſome Troops for the Relief of the Caſtle; but General *Stanhope* finding the Paſſes well guarded, and the Enterprize dangerous, demanded to capitulate for the Caſtle, which being granted him, the Garriſon, conſiſting of 600 Regular Troops, march'd out with their Arms and Baggage the Day following; and being receiv'd on Board, they immediately ſet Sail for *Barcelona*. Theſe Letters add, That the March of the *French* and *Swiſs* Regiments is further deferr'd for a few Days; and that the Duke of *Noailles* was juſt ready to ſet out for *Rouſſillon*, as well as the Count *de Bezons* for *Catalonia*.

The ſame Advices ſay, Bread was ſold at *Paris* for 6*d. per* Pound; and that there was not half enough, ev'n at that Rate, to ſupply the Neceſſities of the People, which reduc'd them to the utmoſt Deſpair; that 300 Men had taken up Arms, and having plunder'd the Market of the Subu b St. *Germain*, preſs'd down by their Multitude the King's Guards who oppos'd them. Two of thoſe Mutineers were ſeiz'd and condemn'd to Death; but Four others went to the Magiſtrate who pronounc'd that Sentence, and told him, He muſt expect to anſwer with his own Life for that of their Comrades. All Order and Senſe of Government being thus loſt among the enrag'd People, to keep up a Show of Authority, the Captain of the Guards, who lay all their Inſolence, pretended, That he had repreſented to the King their deplorable Condition, and had obtain'd their Pardon. It is further reported, That the Dauphin and Dutcheſs of *Burgundy*, as they went to the Opera, were ſurrounded by Crowds of People, who upbraided them with their Neglect of the general Calamity, in going to Diverſions, when the whole People were ready to periſh for Want of Bread. Edicts are daily publiſh'd to ſuppreſs theſe Riots; and Papers, with Menaces againſt the Government, as publickly thrown about. Among others, theſe Words were drop'd in a Court of Juſtice, France *wants a* Ravilliac *or a* Jeſuit *to deliver her*. Beſides this univerſal Diſtreſs, there is a contagious Sickneſs, which, it is fear'd, will end in a Peſtilence. Letters from *Bourdeaux* bring Accounts no leſs lamentable: The Peaſants are driven by Hunger from their Abodes into that City, and make Lamentations in the Streets without Redreſs.

We are adviſ'd by Letters from the *Hague*, dated the 10th Inſtant, *N.S.* That on the 6th the Marquis *de Torſi* arrived there from *Paris*; but the Paſſport by which he came having been ſent blank by Monſ. *Rouille*, he was there two Days before his Quality was known. That Miniſter offer'd to communicate to Monſ. *Heinſius* the Propoſals which he had to make; but he refus'd to ſee 'em, and ſaid, He would ſignify it to the States, who deputed ſome of their own Body to acquaint him, That they would enter into no Negotiation till the Arrival of his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the other Miniſters of the Alliance. Prince *Eugene* was expected there the 12th Inſtant from *Bruſſels*. 'Tis ſaid, That beſides Monſ. *de Torſi*, and Monſ. *Pajot* Director General of the Poſts, there are two or three Perſons at the *Hague* whoſe Names are not known; but 'tis ſuppos'd, that the Duke *d'Albe*, Ambaſſador from the Duke of *Anjou*, was one of them. The States have ſent Letters to all the Cities of the Provinces, deſiring them to ſend their Deputies to receive the Propoſitions of Peace made by the Court of *France*.

In the Abſence of Mr. Bickerſtaff, *Mrs.* Diſtaff *has received Mr.* Nathaniel Broomſtick's *Letter.*

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where *Advertiſements* are taken in.